REMARKS

In the last Office Action claim 1, was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Gellert et al. Claims 2 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Geller et al. Claims 2 and 3 were further rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gellert as applied to claim 1 and further in view of EP 75 09 75.

Claims 2 and 3 have been canceled without prejudice in order to advance the prosecution of the present application and new claims 4-6 inclusive have been substituted therefore. Reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

According to claim 1, the first heating resistor is operatively connected to a controlling thermocouple. The claim further called for the second heating resistor being equipped with an autonomous second. Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly bring out that the second heating resistor is also operatively connected to an autonomous second controlling thermocouple. In the patent to Gellert '784 the thermocouples (94, 96) are not connected to the resistors. The thermocouples (94, 96) are disposed immediately adjacent the wire elements and are not connected to them. Therefore claim 1 is clearly not anticipated by Gellert. Furthermore it would not be obvious to one skilled in the art to modify the arrangement of the thermocouples of Gellert et al.

New claim 4 is specific to an arrangement where the first and second resistors are each located in a spiral shaped groove. In rejecting original claims 2 and 3 as being obvious in view of the teachings of Gellert the Examiner relied upon the disclosure of Gellert et al. in column 1, lines 22-27. The passage referred to does not refer directly or indirectly to a spiral groove. They

merely wrap the resistors in a spiral pattern and then embed the entire resistor in a compound which completely encases the spiral resistor. Therefore the disclosure of Gellert et al. does not specifically call for or even suggest the provision of spiral grooves in which the heating elements are disposed. It is further submitted that the European patent application which was also relied upon in the rejection of claims 2 and 3 fails to specifically teach the location of 2 heating resistors in spiral grooves which extend about the periphery of a cylindrical element. This reference was combined with the teachings of Gellert et al. which disclose the two coils in radially spaced apart components of the moulded material. Thus, there is no suggestion in Gellert et al. or the European patent application of locating two coils in spiral grooves formed in the external surface of a cylindrical support member. Accordingly new claim 4 is considered to be clearly patentable over the teachings of Gellert taken either alone or in combination with the European patent application.

New claim 5 is dependent from claim 4 and further calls for the first and second resistors being disposed in the same spiral groove in side by side relation. None of the references of record disclose or even suggest the locating of two spiral resistors in a common grove in side by side relation. In the patent to Gellert the two resistors are embedded within the respective dialectric material layers in radially spaced apart relation to each other. Therefore the operational redundancy as called for in column 9, line 35 of Gellert et al. cannot be properly ensured since the different radial distances and different dialectric material thickness associated each resistor will provide, in the case of failure in one or the other, different heating effects in the nozzle melt bore. Thus the provision of the two heating resistors in the same spiral groove in

side by side relation is not even remotely suggested by Gellert taken either alone or in combination with the European patent application. New claim 6 is dependent from claim 4 and further calls for the provision of a thermocouple operatively connected to each of the heating resistors. Such a claim is considered patentable for the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1 and claim 4.

An Information Disclosure Statement is submitted herewith identifying U.S. Patents 6,561,789 and 3,812,323 as references of interest. These references became known to the applicant on June 5 and 10, 2003 respectively. U.S. Patent 6,561,789 is a continuation of U.S. patent 6,394,784 previously relied upon by the Examiner. Both U.S. Patents 6,561,789 and 6,394,784 require at least one dialectric layer separating each resistor from the nozzle body. In U.S. Patent 3,812,323 the heating coils are carried by a sleeve or band wrapped around the nozzle. Accordingly the claims are believed to be clearly patentable over both of the newly cited references.

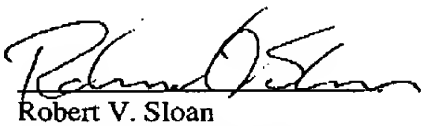
In view of the foregoing amendments and arguments it is respectfully requested that claims 1 and 4-6 inclusive be allowed and the application passed to issue forthwith.

If for any reason the Examiner is unable to allow the application on the next Office Action and feels that an interview would be helpful to resolve any remaining issue, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney for the purpose of arranging such an interview.

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
USSN 09/987,749
Attorney Docket Q67214

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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